

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

OCTOBER 19, 2010

Fire Captain Tedmund D. "Ted" Hall was a 28-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Fire Department. He joined the organization in 1981 as a student worker. He became a Fire Fighter in 1983 upon graduation as a member of the Department's 64th Recruit Academy, and was later certified as a paramedic. Captain Hall served the communities of Lakewood, Whittier, and La Puente until 1987, when he transferred to the Department's Antelope Valley dispatch center. In 1987, he was promoted to Fire Fighter Specialist and served the communities of South El Monte, Castaic, and Huntington Park, before transferring into the Department's Camps section, where he served as a Crew Foreman at Camp 2 in La Canada Flintridge and Camp 11 in Acton. In January 2001, he was promoted to Fire Captain and served the communities of Altadena, Lancaster and Santa Clarita, before transferring to Camp 16 on Mount Gleason, his final assignment. Captain Hall served as Superintendent of Camp 16 for three years and was greatly respected for his professionalism and superb firefighting skills.

Fire Fighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones was an 11-year veteran of the Los Angeles County Fire Department. In 1998, he joined the Department's call Fire Fighter program and was assigned to Fire Station 84 in Quartz Hill. On February 23, 2001, he achieved his dream of becoming a firefighter, graduating as a member of the Department's 104th Recruit Academy. As Fire Fighter, "Arnie," as he was affectionately known, was assigned to Fire Station 153 in Covina and his own hometown of Palmdale at Fire Station 24. In November 2003 he promoted to the rank of Fire Fighter Specialist and served as an Engineer at Fire Station 82 in La Canada Flintridge before transferring to the Camps Section in December of 2005. His last assignment was at Camp 16 on Mount Gleason, where he served admirably for four years and was held in high regard by all who knew him.

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On August 30, 2009, during the Station Fire, Fire Captain Ted Hall, 47, and Fire Fighter Specialist Arnie Quinones, 34, gave their lives performing their last act of courage. While a plan was in place to defend Camp 16 if the fire approached, including a firing operation along Mt. Gleason Road, something went tragically wrong. As Captain Hall and Fire Fighter Specialist Quinones performed the planned firing operation, the fire quickly and unexpectedly pushed across the west end of the Camp, and instantly surrounded and burned through the entire compound. There was no time for them to return to the safety of the Camp. They were killed in the line of duty when their vehicle went over the side of Mt. Gleason Road and fell 800 feet into a steep canyon.

The Board of Supervisors, on behalf of all County residents, owes a great deal of gratitude to Captain Hall, Engineer Quinones, and their supervisors. These brave men exemplify the ideals of commitment, service, and bravery within the ranks of the County's Fire Department. It is therefore appropriate to memorialize their ultimate sacrifice in a permanent commemoration of these two brave men.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors find that Angeles Forest Highway should be designated at the "Los Angeles County Fire Department Captain Ted Hall and Engineer Arnie Quinones Memorial Highway," and direct the Director of Public Works to:

- Work with representatives of the United States Forest Service to secure their approval of the memorial designation;
- Fabricate and install appropriate signage identifying the Memorial Highway; and
- Work with representatives of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to determine if similar signage can be located in both directions along the Antelope Valley Freeway (SR-14) at the ramps nearest the Memorial Highway.

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